

studies, volunteering on campaigns for the Republican party, and helping with various events and fundraisers at the Colorado Springs Christian School.

Since putting down roots in the Pikes Peak region, the Ofner family attended several churches in Colorado Springs, including Fellowship Bible Church, Woodmen Valley Chapel, Rocky Mountain Calvary, Mountain Springs, and most recently, The Road@Chapel Hills Church.

For the last few years of Cheri's life, she and Lee cared for her father Dee, a WWII veteran, in their home, for which Cheri was extremely grateful.

Cheri is survived by her husband of nearly fifty years, Lee; her loving children, CDR (USNR) Jay (Jennifer) Ofner of Mililani, Hawaii; and MAJ (USAF, Retired) Courtney (Kirk) Olsen of Colorado Springs, Colorado; her beloved grandchildren Amanda, Evie, Aaron, and Kylie; and her wonderful siblings, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Romans 12:11 commands that His believers, "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the LORD." Cheri did just this and lived her life with conviction, passion, and unadulterated love and excitement for her Heavenly Father. She leaves behind her husband, family, and friends who loved and adored her and who are celebrating her life and reunion in heaven with the Lord God, Almighty. I ask that my colleagues in Congress join me in honoring my friend and fellow patriot, Cheri Ofner, in saying, "well done, good and faithful servant."

HONORING JEROME L. DAVIS FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIRPORTS AUTHORITY AND CONGRATULATING HIM ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a leader in our business and transportation community, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Executive Vice President and Chief Revenue Officer Jerome L. Davis, on his upcoming retirement. As the Airports Authority's highest-ranking executive under the president and CEO, Davis has overseen the Office of Revenue, which includes Marketing and Consumer Strategy, Concessions, Airline Business Development, Real Estate, Commercial Parking, Communications and Government Affairs. Davis' retirement caps off a career that has spanned more than four decades as a key executive in major U.S. corporations.

Under Davis' leadership, overall passenger traffic at Reagan National and Dulles International airports increased by more than nine percent, led by growth at Dulles International through the addition of 30 new international routes and 15 new airlines. Davis' efforts to increase non-airline revenue boosted it to an unprecedented 57 percent of total revenue, a \$90 million increase since 2015. In addition, he led a 2015 rebranding of the corporation, including the creation of a new logo to more closely tie the organization to the air travel industry and the National Capital Region.

Davis also led an expansion and upgrade of the airports' concessions program, recruiting many popular global and local brands to provide a greater "sense of place" for the National Capital Region. His accomplishments in this area included the complete redevelopment of over 180 concessions locations, including shops and restaurants in Reagan National's newly constructed concourse; launching new valet parking services; and executing agreements for new passenger lounges, including the American Express Centurion Lounge coming to Reagan National in 2022.

Prior to joining the Airports Authority, Davis held key executive positions in corporations including Procter & Gamble, Maytag, Waste Management, Electronic Data Systems and Frito-Lay. He also recently retired from the boards of two public companies, Apogee Enterprises and GameStop Corp. Davis also has represented the Airports Authority on the board of directors of Destination DC, the District of Columbia's official convention and visitors' bureau.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Davis and his service to our regional economy, the traveling public, and the gateways for our nation's capital, and I wish him all the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PATHFINDER DAY

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Pathfinder Day, a day in which to honor all those who have served in this elite group of soldiers. The Pathfinders hold a special place in the history and, more importantly, the successes of our Armed Forces. These brave volunteer soldiers were trailblazers who played a vital role in heightening our military's precision and capabilities.

The Army Pathfinders were first utilized at the height of our involvement in World War II as newly formed paratrooper units were being scattered during combat jumps as far as 60 miles from the target. Prior to their formation, a consistent tactical issue had been the inaccurate and widely scattered drop zones for our paratroopers. The correcting course our military found was to assemble volunteer units to drop in the prior night, undetected by the enemy, and set up marked drop zones for our parachuting soldiers and gliders—widely considered a suicide mission. However, these first Pathfinders' bravery and tenacity in the face of a seemingly impossible mission led to success.

Pathfinders have been employed in every major conflict, continuing to drop into unknown enemy territory with no larger force to rely on for retreat or reinforcement. They would continue to do all of this in the name of providing their brothers-in-arms with accurate information and other operational support. While modern technological advancements and the everchanging landscape by which we conduct warfare have shifted so that units such as the Pathfinders are no longer utilized, we would do well to remember the traits that these patriots exhibited—bravery, selflessness, and an

undying need to complete what was requested of them. Now as the National Pathfinder Association gathers in fellowship to commemorate this September 13th Day of recognition, I ask my colleagues to join me in reflecting upon these giants of valor.

HONORING MR. BRYAN O'BRIEN

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Bryan O'Brien, a recently-departed constituent of mine who served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. Due to contentious public debate on our nation's involvement in the war, returning Veterans were denied the appropriate recognition for their service. Thankfully, Mr. O'Brien and his fellow service members did not accept this unfair mistreatment. They advocated for one another and for future generations to ensure all returning service members are treated with respect and honor, regardless of the public opinion of the war itself. They have been quite successful in this endeavor. Bryan was a proud Member of the SPC Zachary L. Shannon Memorial VFW Post 2550 in Dunedin, Florida. He also served as the national sergeant at arms for the VFW. He was a founding member and past vice-president of the Heritage Springs Veterans Club. A true patriot, Bryan loved his country and made an indelible mark on both our community and those who had the privilege of knowing him. Indeed, Bryan leaves behind a legacy of service and sacrifice. May his memory be eternal! My thoughts and prayers are with his widow, Patricia, and his three children: McKenzie O'Brien, Craig Wagner, and Robert Wagner. Thank you, I yield back my time.

CONGRATULATING JULIA FINAZZO FOR WINNING THE LONG JUMP AT THE IHSA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julia Finazzo of Galena, Illinois, for winning the Long Jump at the IHSA State Championships.

Julia Finazzo competed in the IHSA State Competition at Eastern Illinois University in the 100, 200, long jump and 4x100 meter relay. Finazzo finished first place in the long jump event, jumping 18 feet, which broke her own record. She also anchored the winning 4x100 meter relay, which set a program record with a winning time of 50.46. As a former student athlete, I admire and appreciate Julia's hard work and dedication to track. I am proud that she has represented the Galena community exceptionally well throughout the state.

It is because of student leaders such as Julia that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would once again like to congratulate Julia Finazzo on her success in Track while competing at the state level.

CELEBRATING THE JEFFERSON
AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST'S
150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th Anniversary of the Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ located in my hometown of Cookeville, Tennessee. What began as a small number of Christians meeting in 1871 is now a strong institution providing generations with a place to practice their faith and be a part of a supportive community.

In their early years, the church shared a building with a Methodist church on what today is known as Lowe Avenue. In 1874, the congregation moved to a new building north of the county square on the corner of Washington and Freeze Street. In 1908, to accommodate their growing congregation, the church built a new place of worship on Broad Street and took the name Broad Street Church of Christ.

In 1909, seeing the need and benefit of higher education, Jere Whitson and other members of the Broad Street congregation led the founding of the University of Dixie, commonly called Dixie College and now known as Tennessee Technological University. The school currently has an enrollment of over 10,000 students and offers a wide variety of degrees at different levels from eight academic schools and colleges. I am proud to be an alumnus from this university and take pride in their founding and traditions.

As the area grew, the Broad Street Church of Christ congregation moved to plant other congregations in the area. They acquired land, supported construction of new church buildings, and identified members of Broad Street who were willing to be the initial members of the new congregations. These church plants are still active today. As the Broad Street building aged, the members decided in 1962 it was time to move south to the current location at 521 South Jefferson.

Today, the Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ, led by the ministry team of Andy Brewster as the pulpit minister, Evan Burns as associate minister, Jesse Bates as youth minister, and Bo Perez as the Spanish-language minister, continues its commitment to mission work worldwide. Currently, it supports 30 ministers, 40 congregations, and a bible school in Nicaragua by providing humanitarian aid and training. They support nine preachers and a preaching school in Panama and the San Blas Islands. Jefferson Avenue also is committed to Healing Hands International and their work in developing countries, providing access to clean water and medical supplies. They continue to spread the word of God throughout the world through support of World Christian Broadcasting as well as Gospel Chariot Ministries who offer mobile evangelistic teams.

The Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ is also making a difference here at home. When Gatlinburg Church of Christ lost its building to the 2016 wildfires, Jefferson Avenue was moved to assist in the rebuilding of their congregation. In March of 2020, when tornados in Cookeville resulted in tragic loss of life, Jefferson Avenue served as one of many distribution centers for emergency supplies. It also helped with direct assistance to many in need.

Christian organizations like The Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ are the bedrock of our communities in Middle Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I would like you to join me in honoring and congratulating the Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ for 150 years of dedication and commitment to spreading the gospel right here at home and abroad.

RECOGNIZING THE BUFFALO
STATE COLLEGE
SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor of my own alma mater, Buffalo State College, to recognize 150 years of education and service to the Western New York Community.

Buffalo State College, a member of the State University of New York (SUNY) system, opened in 1871 as the Buffalo Normal School to train teachers for the area's growing public school system. Now the largest comprehensive four-year college in the SUNY system, Buffalo State educates over 9,000 undergraduate and graduate students each year. In addition to their renown Special Education program, the school offers 79 undergraduate majors, 11 post baccalaureate teacher certification programs, and 64 graduate programs.

Education is perhaps one of life's greatest gifts and for the past 150 years, Buffalo State College has committed to providing access to quality public higher education, giving a countless number of students the opportunity for engaged and applied learning. As an alumnus myself, I have seen first-hand just how great of an institution Buffalo State really is. Its ability to improve and evolve each year with ever changing educational practices deserves the highest honor.

Buffalo State is known for its strong community connections and commitment to life-long learning. Graduates become scholars, leaders, and global citizens. The educational community encompasses a diverse range of students and faculty. It is this commitment to diversity and inclusivity that has made Buffalo State into the institution it is today. This diversity creates a learning environment where all people are welcome and helps to foster the growth of a knowledgeable, understanding community.

It is attributes like this that have enabled Buffalo State to become a pristine institution within the Western New York Community for many years. I sincerely congratulate the faculty, staff, students, and alumni of Buffalo State College on being a part of the school's storied history, and I look forward to seeing how Buffalo State continues to grow and develop throughout the future. Go Bengals.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF 9/11
VICTIMS ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY
OF SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2001

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, as we honor the loved ones lost 20 years ago.

The horrific events that unfolded that day claimed the lives of nearly 3,000 Americans and forever impacted many more. The senseless terrorist attacks that took place in New York City, Washington, D.C., and a field in Pennsylvania fundamentally altered our nation. Commercial airliners were weaponized, our Pentagon attacked, and the World Trade Center Towers fell. Yet, in one of America's darkest hours, Americans were united by God, heroism and compassion.

As we take a moment to commemorate the great losses our nation suffered 20 years ago, we also continue to be inspired by the raw strength and resilience displayed by our great nation in the grief and aftermath. To this day, America's fortitude continues to set an international example, even during trying times.

While this day is still difficult and we cannot bring back those precious American lives that were tragically lost by the brutal attacks, we must never forget their sacrifice and those that protect our freedom. I commend the participants of Lake Havasu City's 9/11 Rededication Ceremony for honoring the memory of the Americans lost on the twentieth anniversary of the September 11th, 2001 attacks.

May God continue to comfort the families who lost loved ones and may God bless the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF NEEL
HAJRA'S 11 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE ANN ARBOR AREA COM-
MUNITY FOUNDATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 10, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Neel Hajra, the outgoing CEO of the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. His significant contributions to our community are worthy of commendation.

Mr. Hajra came to the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation in 2011 and became CEO in 2015. He is a two-time graduate of the University of Michigan who started his career as an attorney with the Ford Motor Company. During a sabbatical from that job, he developed a love for community and the nonprofit sector. He later took a job at Nonprofit Enterprise at Work (NEW), where he remained for nine years before joining the Foundation.

As CEO of the Community Foundation, his determination to create positive community change is infectious. Among his numerous successful endeavors includes establishing a scholarship program that increased graduation rates for underserved students, and launching a resilient support system for Washtenaw